

Board Meeting Minutes
LWV Pullman
August 27, 2019, 10:00 am, Daily Grind, Back Room

Attending: Helen Catanese, Mary Collins, Susan Daniels, Sue Hinz, Anne Lewis, Bobbie Ryder, Alice Schroeder, Paul Spencer, Judy Stone, Libby Walker,

Call to Order and Welcome: The meeting was called to order by President, Bobbie Ryder, at 10:00 am. Bobbie reminded the group of the League's non-partisan policy and passed around a copy of the policy (See attached).

Routine Business: The May Board Meeting minutes were approved. The next board meeting will be September 24, 10:00am at the Daily Grind.

Old Business:

Non Partisan status: There is confusion over the League's non-partisan status with the City. The City Attorney has stated that we cannot use city facilities because we do take positions on issues. However, other entities which use the facilities, such the Chamber of Commerce, also take positions. Bobbie and Libby have been working to clarify this, especially with the Library. (Note: immediately after the meeting they checked with Joanna Bailey, director of Libraries and we are cleared to use the Hecht Room for the forums in October and the Brown Bags.)

Harvard Case Study: Bobbie Ryder reported that Ronda (History teacher at Colfax High) and Andrew (Civics teacher at Colfax High) Penwell went to the Harvard Case Study Training and were very enthusiastic about the experience and the help it will be to their teaching. We look forward to their presentation to League on Dec. 5 (Trinity Lutheran Church). Bobbie will help facilitate other public presentations as needed.

Centennial Celebrations: The year 2020 is the centennial of the granting of women's suffrage and the founding of the League of Women Voters. The Pullman League has received two grants to bring programs to Pullman. We received \$1950 from the Washington State History Museum "Votes for Women" Centennial Grant program to support two events. The first is Eva Abram who will do a suffragette re-enactment at the WSU Floyd Cultural Center on Feb. 20th. This will be co-sponsored by several WSU groups. A second event will feature Cathryn Cummings who will perform a re-enactment of Eleanor Roosevelt on March 5th. Additionally, outside the grant, we hope to have the local group "The Cherry Sisters Revival" perform a set of songs about women's suffrage.

A second grant of \$400 was received from the LWVWA education fund to support bringing Alison McCaffree to Pullman to discuss redistricting through her "Redistricting Forum in a Box." This presentation will be in April at Trinity Lutheran Church.

At no cost, except, possibly, a dinner, Rob Curley, editor of the Spokesman Review will speak Nov. 7th at Goertzen Hall (in the Murrow Complex) on the WSU campus. He is also co-sponsored by the Edward R. Murrow College of Communication.

Libby Walker needs help in preparing flyers and other PR materials for these performances. Call or e-mail her if you can help. Susanne Daniels will help with formatting flyers.

New Business: Calendar:

Meeting Dates: **NOTE:** Both the general (evening) and brown bag meeting dates have changed. **General evening meetings** are now usually the **first Thursday** of each month with several exceptions. **Brown Bags** are now the third **Tuesday** of each month.

Meeting Places: **NOTE:** Meeting places have also changed. A variety of venues will be used for the evening meetings. Please pay attention to the announcements. **Brown bags** will mostly be held in the **Hecht Room of Neill Public Library** and the Library will help us publicize them. We hope the downtown location and parking will bring more attendees. [The Hecht room is very appropriate as Edith Hecht was a very active, long time member of the Pullman League. (and a beloved mentor of your secretary.) Take a moment to read about her contributions to Pullman next time you are in the Hecht Room.]

Updated League Calendar: Thanks to Judy Stone for her work on updating our meeting calendar. An updated version will be sent to all members as soon as a few more dates and places are finalized. On the current version the listing of the Auditor at the April general meeting is incorrect. Work is under way to move the Auditor's portion of this meeting to the February Brown Bag, as the information is important for the March 10th Presidential Primary.

Typical League Calendar: Judy Stone handed out an updated Calendar and asked for suggestions and additions. Paul suggested adding the open period, July 1 – Nov. 1, to submit our non-profit verification to the IRS. This calendar is an aid to board members and committee chairs in organizing so that important annual deadlines, etc. are not missed.

LWV of Pullman Historic Timeline: This was originally supposed to be presented at the June 2019 LWVWA convention, but was not done. It was decided that it would be a very good for our February display in the Library. The WSU Libraries Manuscripts, Archives, Special Collections division (MASC) has material on the Pullman League up to the early 2000's. Paul Spencer and Alice Schroeder have later materials. A committee of Judy Stone, Helen Cantanese, Mary Collins and Alice Schroeder will work on this.

Centennial Award: Mary Collins, Karen Kiessling and Sue Hinz are working on an award for women active in local government. They will report at the September board meeting. A proposal for materials related to Suffrage to be given to the Pullman and Whitman County Libraries is also being formulated and will be presented at the October Board Meeting.

Lentil Festival: There were many visitors to the Friday night table despite its hidden location. It was suggested that donation envelopes be available as part of our table supplies, as each year there are a few requests. We need to get the name and address of donors so we can thank them. The location also makes it hard to set up and break down. We pay \$75 to have the table and it may not be worth it if this location continues. Bobbie Ryder noted that the all campus picnic is the same day from 11:00 to 2:00. It is on Colorado Street so it is easy to set up and take down and is free. The board decided to try having the table at the picnic next year instead of at the Lentil Festival.

Reports:

Treasurer: Treasurer, Paul Spencer, reported that we currently have \$6214.65 in checking and \$3152.54 in the Ed. Fund for a total of \$9,367.19. This is about \$1,000 more than last year at this time. Paul has put a donate link on the website. He will add a check box for those who would like to receive information about League events and a request for name and address so we can thank anyone who donates. Bobbie Ryder asked if we want to add a membership payment button as well. Paul said this would be easy to do but PayPal does take a 2.5% fee for each transaction. Judy Stone proposed that we “Add a PayPal membership button and include a transaction fee to compensate for the PayPal fee.” The board agreed.

MELD: Libby Walker reported that there is a new coordinator, Katherine Murphy. She is very organized and there is now a way to see pictures of the other participants.

Community outreach: Libby Walker will be working on publicity for our speakers.

Social Media: Bobbie has been posting pictures on Facebook and this is the best place to get them for other materials. Bobbie wants to keep a running list of League activities starting with last May’s Annual Meeting as she feels this really helps us present ourselves to others. She already has an impressive list.

Voter Services: Helen Catanese reported for Deb Olson. There will be voter registration tables at the WSU CUB on voter registration day, September 24th from 10:00 to 3:00pm and October 3rd at the Whitman County Library during the first Thursday hours. We are invited to help the CCE (Center for Civic Engagement) at tables in the CUB on Sept. 17th to 23rd from 11:00 to 2:00. There were several suggestions for other venues including Bishop Place, the Community Action Center, Dissmores and Safeway. Please contact Deb if you can help with any of these. LWV Pullman plans to hold forums for the two contested seats for City Council and one School Board seat in Pullman and the four contested City Council seats in Colfax. There are also two initiatives, but someone is needed to organize that forum. Endicott, Garfield, Palouse, Tekoa and Uniontown all have contested offices. We could help with forums if requested.

Observer Corps: We still need a Port Observer. The Port meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday mornings each month.

TWIL: Judy Stone urges everyone to read these. If you are not already getting them the current Voter has directions for signing up. She gave Bobbie Ryder information for getting our events on the TWIL and the LWVWA Facebook page.

Nominating Committee: Anne Lewis is resigning this post. We need a volunteer. Please contact Bobbie Ryder if you can do this.

The Voter: Anne will continue as editor, putting out the Voter quarterly.

Upcoming Events:

Back to League Potluck: The meeting will be from 6:00 to 9:00pm. Thursday, Sept. 5 at Bobbie Ryder’s home, 800 Greyhound Way. Please RSVP to Bobbie at ryderbobbie@gmail.com.

There will be a short summary of League activities followed by our speaker, Lunell Haught, LWVWA president.

September Brown Bag: Noon, September 17th, Hecht Room, Neill Public Library. Speaker: Superior Court Judge, Gary Libey. Chair: Karen Kiessling.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Schroeder, Secretary

Nonpartisan Policy

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. However, the LWV-Pullman Board values the many skills and types of experience that individual board members bring to the League, including those learned in public life through elective or appointive office. In fact, involvement in the public and political life of this country is something that the League of Women Voters recommends for all citizens and other members of the public.

Nevertheless, the LWV-Pullman Board believes that some basic limitations on board members' political activity, while they are serving in this capacity, are necessary to protect the nonpartisanship of the League as an organization. Other than in her/his official capacity, the President shall not engage in any political activity, partisan or nonpartisan, including attending political fundraising events.

In order to balance these goals, the LWV-Pullman Board adopts the following policy. *This policy shall be reviewed and amended or readopted by the LWV-Pullman Board at the beginning of each new biennium.*

- 1. Elected Office.** *President, Executive Team, Voter Service Chair, and Vice-President shall not run for, nor hold, any partisan elective office at any level of government. A Board member may run for or hold a local non-partisan elective office, after consultation with and approval by the LWV-Pullman Board.
- 2. Political Party Office.** *President, Executive Team, Voter Service Chair, and Vice-President shall not serve in any official position in a political party at any level of government.

3. **Political Campaigns.** *President, Executive Team, Voter Service Chair, and Vice-President shall not chair a political campaign or administer fundraising for a political campaign, chair a campaign event, be a spokesperson, or work in any other significant way in the campaign of a candidate for a partisan office at any level of government.

4. **Campaign Contributions.** *President, Executive Team, Voter Service Chair, and Vice-President shall not make campaign contributions to campaigns or candidates for any federal office or to political parties or other entities contributing to such federal races.

5. **Social and Other Media.** *President, Executive Team, Voter Service Chair, and Vice-President shall not indicate her/his political affiliations or candidate preferences at any level of government in the media, including on social networking sites or other public venues that also prominently identify her/him as a member of the LWV-Pullman Board.

6. **Political Signs, Petitions, Caucuses, ETC.** *President, Executive Team, Voter Service Chair, and Vice-President shall not display support for any candidate or party including signing candidacy petitions or advertisements or displaying signs or posters, attending caucuses or candidate meet and greets, etc. Note that family members of the officers are free to display public support for candidates or attend parties.

7. **Additional Clarification.** Board members shall present questions about specific situations to the LWV-Pullman Board where the foregoing policies do not resolve the question.

*Other titles may not be specifically used in this policy, but apply.

Adopted from LWVUS in

February 2018.